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|--------------|----------|------------|
| Cortez Masto | Leahy | Schatz |
| Duckworth | Manchin | Schumer |
| Durbin | Markey | Shaheen |
| Gillibrand | Menendez | Sinema |
| Graham | Merkley | Smith |
| Hassan | Murphy | Stabenow |
| Heinrich | Murray | Tester |
| Hickenlooper | Ossoff | Toomey |
| Hirono | Padilla | Van Hollen |
| Kaine | Peters | Warner |
| Kelly | Reed | Warnock |
| Kennedy | Romney | Warren |
| King | Rosen | Whitehouse |
| Klobuchar | Sanders | Wyden |

[Rollcall Vote No. 41 Ex.]

YEAS—68

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| Baldwin | Hassan | Risch |
| Bennet | Heinrich | Romney |
| Blumenthal | Hickenlooper | Rosen |
| Booker | Hirono | Rubio |
| Brown | Kaine | Sanders |
| Burr | Kelly | Sasse |
| Cantwell | King | Schatz |
| Capito | Klobuchar | Schumer |
| Cardin | Leahy | Shaheen |
| Carper | Manchin | Sinema |
| Casey | Markey | Smith |
| Collins | McConnell | Stabenow |
| Coons | Menendez | Sullivan |
| Cornyn | Merkley | Tester |
| Cortez Masto | Moran | Thune |
| Crapo | Murphy | Tillis |
| Duckworth | Murray | Van Hollen |
| Durbin | Ossoff | Warner |
| Fischer | Padilla | Warnock |
| Gillibrand | Peters | Warren |
| Graham | Portman | Wyden |
| Grassley | Reed | Young |

more funding for defense than the \$22 billion increase that President Biden sought and less money for nondefense programs than he requested. This should have been an easy deal for them to accept. Indeed, the defense funding number that Democrats are willing to agree to is the number that Republicans on the Armed Services Committee proposed this summer and that was incorporated into the National Defense Authorization Act. But even with that defense number in hand, our Republican colleagues continue to draw out negotiations, pushing us closer to a full-year continuing resolution that would fund defense at a level that is less than President Biden initially requested and about \$37 billion lower than the level set out in the NDAA.

I think that is important. If the Republicans continue to reject a sensible agreement on an Omnibus appropriations bill, they will end up with a defense number that is less than what President Biden sent up, and what he sent up was harshly and vigorously criticized by the Republicans as being not only ineffectual but also somehow undermining our defense.

So it is very clear that we have to move quickly to make a full-year CR an impossibility and that we have to move and vote for an Omnibus appropriations bill. A CR for the full year will shortchange our military. It will disrupt the efficient operations of the Federal Government in the midst of international tension, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and a fragile economic recovery.

Let me focus on the Navy and Marine Corps for a moment. Like the other services, they would be hard hit. A full-year CR would lead to a shortfall of \$4.4 billion from the level the President requested.

Even worse, the Navy estimates the impact could total more than \$14 billion of misaligned funds because a CR prohibits any new starts and production rate increases. The military personnel accounts alone would be \$1.6 billion below what the Navy needs, and that is the pay and benefits for our men and women in uniform. The Navy's Active-Duty end strength would be reduced by 23,000 sailors of its planned accessions. Almost half of the permanent change-of-station moves would be cut, and the Navy Reserves would also face a substantial reduction in its end strength.

A full-year CR could leave the training and readiness accounts for the Navy and Marine Corps about \$2.5 billion short of what they need. This shortfall would reduce the services' flight operations by 10 to 20 percent for all units for 6 months. Reductions in ship operations will put training certifications for one carrier strike group and two expeditionary strike groups at risk, thereby impacting fiscal year 2023 deployments.

This shortfall would impact the scheduling of ship maintenance availabilities for five Virginia-class submarines and two aircraft carriers—

NAYS—42

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|-----------|------------|------------|
| Blackburn | Grassley | Paul |
| Boozman | Hagerty | Portman |
| Braun | Hawley | Risch |
| Burr | Hoeven | Rubio |
| Capito | Hyde-Smith | Sasse |
| Cassidy | Inhofe | Scott (FL) |
| Cornyn | Johnson | Scott (SC) |
| Cotton | Lankford | Shelby |
| Cramer | Lee | Sullivan |
| Crapo | Lummis | Thune |
| Cruz | Marshall | Tillis |
| Daines | McConnell | Tuberville |
| Ernst | Moran | Wicker |
| Fischer | Murkowski | Young |

NOT VOTING—4

| | |
|-----------|--------|
| Barrasso | Lujan |
| Feinstein | Rounds |

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Lisa A. Carty, of Maryland, to be Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador.

VOTE ON CARTY NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Carty nomination?

Mr. HICKENLOOPER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJAN), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

The result was announced—yeas 68, nays 27, as follows:

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|-----------|------------|------------|
| Blackburn | Hagerty | Lummis |
| Boozman | Hawley | Marshall |
| Braun | Hoeven | Paul |
| Cassidy | Hyde-Smith | Scott (FL) |
| Cotton | Inhofe | Scott (SC) |
| Cramer | Johnson | Shelby |
| Cruz | Kennedy | Toomey |
| Daines | Lankford | Tuberville |
| Ernst | Lee | Wicker |

NOT VOTING—5

| | | |
|-----------|--------|------------|
| Barrasso | Lujan | Whitehouse |
| Feinstein | Rounds | |

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY).

Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 5 p.m. today, the Senate vote on the confirmation of the Wong nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume consideration of the Bush nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. REED. Mr. President, last week, I came to the floor to warn that we are moving closer to a yearlong continuing resolution, or a CR, that would have devastating implications for every Federal Agency—particularly the Department of Defense.

We are 5 months into the fiscal year. Soon, the House will send over another stop-gap measure so we can avoid a shutdown for a few more weeks. When the short-term funding bill expires, the fiscal year will be halfway over. We need to get this work done.

As outlined last week, Democrats put a deal on the table months ago that gave Republicans what they wanted—

something that will ripple through the industrial base in future fiscal years.

For the Marines, maintenance availabilities for 12 of their landing craft would be deferred, including 6 landing craft air cushions and 6 landing craft utility. These deferrals would potentially impact their ability to support operational needs around the globe. If we don't keep our ships and amphibious vehicles maintained, they will not be ready nor reliable when they are needed in operations, thereby risking the safety of our servicemembers and impeding their ability to perform the mission.

These are just some of the operational impacts the Navy and Marine Corps would face under a yearlong CR.

A CR will also prevent the Navy from effectively modernizing and reinvesting in new programs. The Department of the Navy would not be able to execute 10 new procurement programs and 10 new research and development projects.

Additionally, 20 programs would not be able to increase their production rate as planned in the budget request. Perhaps most importantly, the CR would provide insufficient funding for the continued construction of SSBN-826, the first boat of the *Columbia*-class ballistic missile submarine program, which is replacing the aging *Ohio*-class submarines.

The *Columbia*-class program is vitally important to maintaining our strategic nuclear deterrence. I have seen the boat currently under construction in Rhode Island, the state-of-the-art hull cylinders and missile tubes. It is a formidable vessel, and it needs to stay on track.

A yearlong CR would also affect the advance procurement funding for the second, third, fourth, and fifth of the submarines of this class. Effectively, we would be disrupting the unavoidable replacing of aging *Ohio*-class submarines with the new *Columbia* class. All this would mean down the road eventually is just more expensive submarines.

We are already on a tight schedule to deliver SSBN-826 to meet the requirements of Strategic Command. Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Gilday has said that the *Columbia* class is the Navy's "number one modernization priority" and that it "is a program with zero margin for delays."

The impacts aren't limited to our undersea fleet. Under a yearlong CR, the Navy also wouldn't be able to purchase three additional surface ships—two of the TAGOS ocean surveillance ships and one ship to shore connector—and the Navy won't be able to start procuring materials in advance for the new frigate and the TAO fleet oiler.

The Marines will not be able to buy 7 more F35 Joint Strike Fighters, 20 more of the amphibious combat vehicle, nor additional quantities of the joint air-to-ground missile and Hellfire missiles. Instead of procuring six MQ-9A Reaper UAVS, the Marines will get zero.

There are many impacts to new research and development projects that cannot be started under a CR, and the Navy is very concerned about the shortfall in funding for the Conventional Prompt Strike Program. This missile, which is being jointly developed and produced with the Army, will provide Navy ships and *Virginia*-class submarines with a hypersonic weapon capability that is critical to our Nation's ability to deter conflict with China and with Russia. In order to make up this shortfall under a CR and keep this program on pace, the Navy would have to divert funding from other important R&D programs. It is one step forward and two steps back and in some cases may cause delays that are unrecoverable.

The Navy and Marine Corps also won't be able to start 17 military construction projects—new facilities that our sailors and marines need to do their jobs safely and effectively. This includes, among others, \$321 million for two projects in North Carolina, \$288 million for three projects in Virginia, \$14 million for a project in Minnesota, \$49 million for a project in Michigan, \$558 million for eight projects in Guam, and \$50 million for a project in Japan. This will clearly affect our ability to have a forward-operating presence in the Indo-Pacific region and to confront what the Secretary of Defense has called the pacing threat—China.

These are just some examples of the varied impacts and challenges the Navy and Marine Corps would face if there was a yearlong CR. I would encourage my colleagues to read the full testimony of the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Gilday, and the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Berger, which they submitted to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense.

These statements can be found online on the House Committee on Appropriations website at <https://appropriations.house.gov/events/hearings/impact-of-continuing-resolutions-on-the-department-of-defense-and-services>.

In short, a yearlong CR will make us less competitive with our adversaries and less able to respond to the rapidly changing global landscape, and these are some things—these efforts are not something the Defense Department can do on its own. We need to fund our diplomats and our law enforcement and all Agencies of the Federal Government.

Indeed, we cannot afford to short-change nondefense priorities. A CR will not adequately fund our Defense Department nor our domestic Agencies. Stating the obvious, we are still in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Are we truly willing to fund the NIH and the CDC and other public health Agencies at last year's levels? Are we willing to tell school systems to make do with the same funding levels for critical programs like title I? Are we going to cut funding for housing rental assistance? Are we willing to short-

change law enforcement, including the Capitol Police?

We need to get our work done. That begins with reaching an agreement that provides the funding Americans need on both sides of the ledger. A full-year CR is not an acceptable solution. I am hopeful that agreement is near. But no one should believe those who claim to support our national defense while threatening a yearlong CR, and no one should claim that our domestic needs are somehow unworthy of support as well.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Nebraska.

2022 WINTER OLYMPICS

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, it goes without saying that each of the American athletes competing in the Olympics this year is the best in their event. Many of them have dedicated their entire lives to their sports in the hope that they might have this opportunity to represent the United States at the Olympic Games. They have earned their spots on Team USA, and I wish them the best as they compete against other athletes from around the world.

But make no mistake, Beijing 2022 is no ordinary Olympics. Just a 4-hour flight from where the Games are being held, China has imprisoned more than a million Uighur Muslims in concentration camps. These Chinese citizens are prisoners—political prisoners—in their own country. Their crime? Maintaining a vibrant Muslim culture that doesn't fit the mold that Beijing wants to impose on China's more than 1.4 billion people. The very same government that is hosting the Olympics this week is putting these innocent people in labor camps and subjecting them to forced sterilization, forced labor, and physical and psychological torture.

One of the few things that President Trump and President Biden agree on is that what China is doing to its Uighur population amounts to genocide.

Last November, one of the most famous athletes in China, Peng Shuai, posted on social media that a high-ranking politician in the Chinese Communist Party had sexually assaulted her. This wasn't just any politician; he was a member of the Politburo Standing Committee and the face of China's successful effort to land the 2022 Olympics. He even met with the president of the International Olympic Committee at least once.

Speaking out about someone like this is dangerous in a country like China. Peng Shuai knew that, but I don't think she expected what came next. Less than 20 minutes after she

posted her accusation, her existence had been scrubbed from the internet. Any mention of her name was restricted. For a while, the Communist Party banned discussion of hundreds of other key words, even words as general as “tennis.” She disappeared from the public eye for months, and the only appearances that she has been allowed to make since have been scripted and supervised by the CCP.

If this is how China treats its own people, I think it is fair to ask: What kind of risks are our athletes facing as they participate in the Olympic Games?

To protest China’s miserable human rights record, the United States instituted a diplomatic boycott, and American officials will not be present for these Games; neither will officials representing many of our allies, like Canada or the United Kingdom. That is the right decision. We shouldn’t pretend that everything is fine in China just because the IOC chose them to host the Olympics.

As far as the committee is concerned, they have made it very clear that China’s money is worth more to them than the rights of the world’s athletes. They had years to plan for these Olympics, but they still chose not to adopt any rules to protect the human rights of Olympians while they are in China. Instead, competitors are required to follow local laws limiting free expression, privacy, and other basic freedoms.

Before they ever set foot in China, athletes and journalists were required to download an intrusive smartphone app, supposedly to track COVID-19 infections. Experts say that China and other malicious actors could exploit flaws in the app’s design to go beyond that and spy on athletes in many other ways, both during the Olympics and long after they are over.

The CCP’s app also contains a list of more than 400 illegal words that they could use to censor athletes’ conversations.

The U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee has gone as far as to tell American athletes to “assume that every device and every communication, transaction, and online activity will be monitored.” Many other nations have issued similar warnings.

This all could have been avoided. We didn’t have to host a unifying event like the Olympics in a country that thinks the book “1984” is an instruction manual. The IOC chose to have China host the Olympics anyway. They chose to ignore these and many other shameless human rights abuses Beijing engages in every single day. They could have required China to respect the basic liberties athletes enjoy in the United States and other Western countries, but they didn’t. The next time a host country is chosen, it is important that the IOC pick any of the dozens of democracies around the world.

The more than 200 athletes on Team USA earned their places at the Olympics with years of hard work and sac-

rific. I do wish them the best, and I pray that they stay safe while they are away from home.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, in an effort to make the internet healthy, happy, and peaceful, the Chinese Government recently clamped down on what it deems as online bad behavior.

Beijing knows all about bad behavior. In fact, if behaving badly were an Olympic sport, China would take the gold, silver, and bronze.

Speaking of the Olympics, last week the Olympic cauldron was lit in the Chinese capital by a Uighur torchbearer. It was a spectacular opening ceremony, with thousands of participants filling the Bird’s Nest. Its choreography was innovative, its artistry unprecedented as China sought to portray itself to the world not as it is but as they want to be seen.

There was an LED floor below, brilliant fireworks overhead. Children danced, sang, and raised glowing doves. The theme was socially conscious and environmentally aware.

The Chinese flag was passed through the hands of people representing the diversity within China, and it was raised where it billowed proudly, even though there wasn’t a breeze.

And not a single American Government official was present—not a single government official. You see, we sent our regrets to the Chinese Communist Party, refused to join in the Xi Jinping games. We let a few of the reasons why we didn’t appear be submitted candidly to the world.

A million Uighurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz are locked away in gulags—raped, tortured with electric batons, sterilized, forced into abortions—all in an effort to eradicate these religious and ethnic minorities not just from Xinjiang but from the face of the Earth.

Taiwan’s sovereignty is continually threatened with the Chinese flying aircraft, streaking across Taiwan’s skies. Hong Kong’s democracy is strangled.

There and across the CCP’s domain, dissidents, whistleblowers, and protesters are apprehended, imprisoned, persecuted, and reeducated—free speech and expression stifled and censored, religious freedom denied.

A virus was recklessly unleashed on the world, upturning our lives, killing our most vulnerable, closing our businesses, damaging our economy, and dividing our people.

A nation is hosting a storied athletic competition, but that nation erases its own athletes for telling embarrassing truths about its government.

The history, distant and recent, of the communist Chinese Government is one of inhumanity, ruthless violation of the most basic human rights, and aggression toward America and its allies.

The Olympic Games in Beijing, spit and polished, even carbon-neutral, may present the face of a humane and caring world power, but we are not fooled.

We see through the charade—a slave state hosting the Olympics; its participants wearing uniforms made by Uighurs tortured and toiling in labor camps.

We see the authoritarian regime behind what the dissident artist Ai Weiwei calls China’s fake smile. And we are leading by example. The CCP has the world stage, but we are not in the audience.

Our athletes are in Beijing, though. They are on the ice, in the snow, on the slopes, and in the arena, and they should be. They have worked their entire lives for this moment. They are seizing it, while we root them on. And I want America’s Olympians to bring back every single gold medal.

But I also want our athletes to know what the Chinese Government might have in store for them. So here are a few hopefully helpful words for our American Olympians.

Keep an eye on your bank account. That is right. When you buy a meal or a souvenir in Beijing, you will be forced to pay for it with the CCP’s digital yuan. The Chinese Government claims the system creates more efficient payments across its economy, but it is also a way of keeping tabs on your transactions and watching what you buy. Be aware. Think twice about what you buy in Beijing. You see, the International Olympic Committee made no effort to stop the sale of apparel made with forced labor.

Not only will China’s Olympic team be wearing uniforms likely produced by slave labor, but official Olympic garments could be coming from the same oppressed source.

And don’t be fooled by uncensoring. The CCP erases any unflattering but accurate portrayals of itself on the internet. With the world watching, it is now promising to lower the great firewall, allowing athletes and the press open access to the internet through SIM cards. China’s own citizens are afforded no such privilege. Hopefully, you brought a burner phone and left your personal devices at home.

Keep an eye out for your fellow athletes. Now, this is important. Tennis star Peng Shuai disappeared in November after accusing a Chinese official of sexual assault. Her peers and the Women’s Tennis Association called for action—an extraordinary showing of solidarity. But after Peng was seen in a video, the world moved on, much to China’s delight.

We may never know how many Chinese athletes live under fear from their oppressive government.

Journalists, by the way, you should be on guard too. You see, there is no freedom of the press in China. Reporters are regularly harassed, censored, and surveilled. In fact, in 2021, China jailed 50 journalists—more than any other nation.

During the 2008 Summer Games in Beijing, there were at least 30 cases of CCP officials interfering with reporting and assaulting journalists. And that

was when China was truly concerned about making a positive impression across the world.

Lastly, and most importantly, to all America's athletes, don't forget this: Your country is behind you. By boycotting the Olympics, our government is shining a light on the CCP's abuse of its citizens and its disregard for the rest of the world, but by competing in the Olympics, our athletes are showing what a free people from an open society are capable of. Now, remember, the Olympics have long been a forum for American victory at the expense of authoritarians' pride. They were an early front in the war against fascism.

Jesse Owens won four gold medals in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, while Hitler looked on, humiliated, his delusion of Aryan superiority burst. When Owens stood on the podium after winning the long jump, he was surrounded by Sieg Heils, but he stood taller and he stood higher than all of them, saluting Old Glory.

But it was Cornelius "Corny" Johnson who was the first Black American to earn gold in Berlin, winning the high jump. The silver went to Dave Albritton, another American, who was also Black. Delos Thurbur, yet another American, won the bronze. Hitler refused to meet with them or to congratulate any of them.

When they took the podium, all three offered their own protest to the dictator—the Bellamy salute; the palm-out salute of the American flag named for Francis Bellamy, the author of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Olympics were a battleground in the Cold War as well.

In 1980, the unheralded and ragtag American hockey team upset the four-time gold medal-winning Soviets. Two days later, they defeated Finland and won the gold.

Russia had just invaded Afghanistan. America's economy was in recession. The victory not only shocked the world, it lifted our Nation and sunk the Soviet's spirits. The Russian hockey players didn't even bother to have their silver medals engraved; they were so angry about losing to America.

Now, in 2022, another act in a global power competition will take place at the Olympics. We have seen it unfold in recent days. America and the free West against the communist Chinese Government. It is part of the contest that will define this century—show the CCP that the future belongs to the free; that authoritarian governments always fail the people trapped under them.

Win. Make Xi Jinping and the Chinese authorities hear the "Star-Spangled Banner" and see the Stars and Stripes again and again and again.

We are cheering you on and will be waiting for you when you come home decorated in gold. Good luck to Team USA, and God bless America.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, we have a true crisis at our southern border. Those in Washington who refuse to use the word "crisis" to describe the humanitarian and security challenges must accept the disastrous consequences of an open-border policy.

Just look at the numbers from the Department of Homeland Security. More than 2 million illegal immigrants were caught attempting to cross the border last year, and if the Biden administration doesn't get serious about securing the border, we are on pace to repeat or exceed this troubling figure in 2022. In December, 178,840 illegal immigrants were apprehended attempting to cross along this stretch of the border, making it the highest total for that month in Department of Homeland Security history.

I have been here before describing this chaos, but the reality is, it continues to escalate while the administration refuses to take action to stop illegal immigration.

Unsurprisingly, we are seeing the tensions between the Biden administration and Border Patrol officials boil over. These men and women have answered the call to protect and serve. They put their lives at risk to enforce the law and arrest people illegally crossing the border, only to have the administration approve the release of the very criminals the officers locked up. This betrayal by the administration is creating low morale, with some Border Patrol officers choosing to leave the job rather than support this lawlessness and insanity.

Instead of preventing illegal drugs from entering our country, border agents are spending time processing paperwork for illegal immigrants.

Do you know who else is seeing this paperwork? TSA agents. The Department of Homeland Security is allowing these lawbreakers to board airplanes using their Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrest warrants as identification at TSA checkpoints. This is totally absurd. It is a reckless policy that threatens the safety of air travelers and all citizens. The administration must end this practice.

The message coming from the White House is: Our southern borders are open. All are welcome.

This has been a green light for immigrants since day one. It started with migrant numbers increasing along the southern border as they awaited Biden's immigration action, and now we see the result. We have experienced record border crossings, overflowing detention centers, and the release of single adult migrants into the United States, among many other many problems. That is how it is going.

It is not just citizens from Central America and Mexico who are taking advantage of this foolish generosity; people from Syria, Turkey, Russia, Pakistan, Cuba, Haiti, and India are illegally entering the United States along the southern border.

I have been here before on the Senate floor sounding the alarm about the threat this dangerous and indefensible approach to immigration and border security is having on our country. It is threatening our sovereignty and undermining the rule of law.

Instead of implementing common-sense steps to secure the border, the administration has prioritized "border czar" Vice President HARRIS's mission to discover the "root causes" of this crisis while the number of illegal immigrants entering our country is reaching historic levels.

The reality is, this truly is a crisis of the Biden administration's own making. The President reversed policies that were curbing illegal immigration, like the construction of a border wall and the "Remain in Mexico" policy.

We must provide Border Patrol agents with the tools and resources to successfully accomplish their job. That involves enforcing the laws and holding illegal immigrants accountable for their unlawful actions, not helping them board airplanes to travel around the country.

This is a matter of national security. My GOP colleagues and I are ready to get back to the effective strategies we had for controlling the border under President Trump, and it is time President Biden gets on board.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. BALDWIN. I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Chantale Yokmin Wong, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Director of the Asian Development Bank, with the rank of Ambassador.

VOTE ON WONG NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Wong nomination?

Ms. BALDWIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?